



Venice  
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University

## International PhD Academy

# Quantitative Methods in Legal Studies

Venice International University  
May 25 – 30, 2020

### Faculty

- Kirill Titaev, European University at Saint Petersburg (Scientific Coordinator)
- Vadim Volkov, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Dmitry Skougarevsky, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Ronen Avraham, Tel Aviv University
- Tamar Kricheli Katz, Tel Aviv University
- Arthur Dyevre, KU Leuven
- Vladimir Kudryavtsev, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Alexey Knorre, European University at Saint Petersburg
- Monika Glavina, KU Leuven
- Timothy Yu Cheong Yeung, KU Leuven

### Agenda

**Monday, May 25, 2020**

**Day 1 – Training Workshop: Text and Data Mining | Arthur Dyevre, KU Leuven**

The objective of this workshop is that participants learn basic concepts of text and data mining methods, including methods to scrape and analyze textual data, all using the open-source software R.

The first part of the workshop provides a gentle introduction to basic methods used in text analytics for a non-technical, legal audience. No mathematical background beyond high school is necessary as graphical and concrete legal examples will be used to illustrate the methods.



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The second part introduces how to automate the large-scale extraction of information from webpages and how computer based content analysis—including word clouds, latent topic models and sentiment analysis—can be used to summarize and explore large collections of legal documents. With the knowledge gained in this workshop, participants will get a sense of the range of available methods to analyze textual legal data and will be ready to undertake their first own data analysis of legal documents.

- 9:00-9:30     *Welcome Coffee & Registration*
- 9:30-9:45     Opening & Introduction to the Course  
VIU & Scientific Coordinator
- 9:45-9:50     Participants' Presentation  
Venice International University & Students
- 9:50-13:00    Training Workshop: Text and Data Mining
- 13:00-14:15   *Lunch*
- 14:30-17:30   Training Workshop: Text and Data Mining

## **Tuesday, May 26, 2020**

### **Day 2 – Academic Roundtables**

- 9:15-11:00    Comparative Sentencing Studies  
Vadim Volkov, EUSP
- 11:00-11:15   *Break*
- 11:15-13:00   Text-as-Data Approach  
Dmitry Skougarevskiy, EUSP
- 13:00-14:00   *Lunch*
- 14:00-14:45   Poster Session / Students' Presentations
- 14:45-16:00   Behavior of Litigators in Commercial Dispute Resolution  
Kirill Titaev, EUSP
- 16:00-16:15   *Break*
- 16:15-17:30   Administrative Data and Quantitative Criminology  
Vladimir Kudryavtsev and Alexey Knorre, EUSP

*Evening*     *Social Dinner (tbc)*



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### Wednesday, May 27, 2020

#### Day 3 – Workshop: Field Experiments | Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU

- 9:15-10:45 Workshop “Field Experiments”  
Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU
- 10:45-11:00 *Break*
- 11:00-12:15 Workshop “Field Experiments”  
Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU
- 12:15-13:00 Poster Session / Students’ Presentations
- 13:00-14:00 *Lunch*
- 14:00-15:30 Third Party Litigation Funding  
Ronen Avraham, TAU (*includes Q&A*)
- 15:30-15:45 *Break*
- 15:45-17:30 Employment Discrimination in Israel  
Tamar Kricheli Katz, TAU (*includes Q&A*)

### Thursday, May 28, 2020

#### Day 4 – Academic Roundtables

- 9:15-11:00 Strategies to Increase the Relevance of Quantitative Research in  
Legal Scholarship and Legal Education
- 11:00-11:15 *Break*
- 11:15-13:00 Challenges to Publish Research that Applies Sophisticated and not  
yet Common Statistical Techniques
- 13:00-14:00 *Lunch*
- 14:00-14:45 Poster Session / Students’ Presentations
- 14:45-16:00 Challenges to Publish Quantitative Research as a Lawyer: Caught  
between the Disapproval of Both Social Scientists and Legal Scholars
- 16:00-16:15 *Break*

16:15-17:30 Epistemological Issues Pertaining to the Application of Economics  
(may include: influence of social constructs on individual behavior  
and meaning of behavioral economics for rational choice theory)



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**Day 5 – Friday, May 29, 2020**

**Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions | Dmitry Skougarevsky, EUSP**

In this session we will build a pipeline in R that (a) obtains real-world data from a commercial court using its API, (b) organizes the case metadata into a flat table, (c) enriches the data with extraneous information, (d) estimates a case outcome regression on the constructed data. The students will learn the basics of accessing HTTP APIs programmatically and storing the data. Working with the obtained data on disposition of cases, students will then estimate regression models to uncover the determinants of observed case outcomes. The class will be hands-on with students understanding and executing pre-written procedures to obtain results on their local machines.

9:15-11:00 Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

11:00-11:15 *Break*

11:15-13:00 Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

13:00-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-15:45 Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

15:45-16:00 *Break*

16:00-17:30 Decision-Making in Commercial Courts: From Querying Court API to Estimating Case Outcome Regressions

**Day 6 – Saturday, May 30, 2020**

**Academic discussion (All the Faculty)**